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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/560,788	11/21/2006	Tsugio Anbo	05811/LH	3007

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FRISHAUF, HOLTZ, GOODMAN & CHICK, PC
220 Fifth Avenue
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NEW YORK, NY 10001-7708

EXAMINER

DINH, PHUONG K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/19/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/560,788	Applicant(s) ANBO ET AL.	
	Examiner Phuong KT Dinh	Art Unit 2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figure 7 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4, 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Akeda (U. S. Patent 5,190,477).

Regarding claim 1, Akeda, see figures 1-6B discloses a connecting terminal B including a connecting portion B1 formed in a rectangular tube having a top plate to which a locking lancer 2 provided in a housing A is to be engaged, wherein a stabilizer

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portion 6 for stabilizing a posture of the connecting terminal within the housing is provided on a bottom plate of said connecting portion to extend in a longitudinal direction.

Regarding claim 2, Akeda, see figures 1-6B, discloses said connecting terminal B is formed by punching, bending and folding a single metal plate.

Regarding claim 3, Akeda, see figures 1-6B, discloses said stabilizer 6 is formed on the bottom plate eccentrically.

Regarding claim 4, Akeda, see figures 6A, 6B, discloses said connecting portion B1 of the connecting terminal B is formed in a shape of a rectangular tube surrounded by the bottom plate, a first side plate connected to one side of the bottom plate, a top plate connected to the first side plate, a second side plate connected to the top plate, and the stabilizer portion connected to the second side plate.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5, 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Akeda in view of Admitted Prior Art (APA).

6. Regarding claim 5, Akeda, see figures 1-6B, discloses the claimed invention except for said stabilizer portion is curved downwardly in a semicircular shape and a free end of the stabilizer portion is brought into contact with the bottom plate. APA

discloses said stabilizer portion is curved downwardly in a semicircular shape and a free end of the stabilizer portion is brought into contact with the bottom plate. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Akeda to provide such feature as taught by APA so as to provide for strong terminal in the bottom plate.

7. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Akeda in view of Kodama (U. S. Patent 6,338,638).

8. Regarding claim 6, Akeda, see figures 1-6B, discloses the claimed invention except for said connecting portion includes resilient contact strips formed within the connecting portion, and each of said movable contact strips is formed by a part of the connecting portion from a rear side toward a front side. Kodama discloses the resilient contact strips form within the connecting portion and each of the movable contact strips is formed by a part of the connecting portion from a rear side toward a front side. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Akeda to provide discloses the resilient contact strips form within the connecting portion and each of the movable contact strips is formed by a part of the connecting portion from a rear side toward a front side as taught by Kodama so as to provide for better grip the male pin.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuong KT Dinh whose telephone number is 571-272-2090. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 -5, 5 days a week.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TC Patel can be reached on 571-272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Phuong Dinh
April 14, 2007

Phuong KT Dinh
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839